



## U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney  
Southern District of Indiana*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

## **TERRE HAUTE DRUG KINGPIN SENTENCED**

### **PRESS RELEASE**

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that FRANCIS BLAIR, 35, Terre Haute, Indiana, was sentenced to 17 years and 6 months imprisonment today by U.S. District Judge John Daniel Tinder following his guilty plea to conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine. The charges resulted from a three month investigation conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Internal Revenue Service, Vigo County Drug Task Force, Terre Haute Police Department, and Vincennes Police Department. The investigation included wire surveillance conducted over four cellular telephones.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Bradley A. Blackington, who prosecuted

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the case for the government, Judge Tinder also imposed years supervised release following BLAIR's release from imprisonment. During the period of supervised release, BLAIR must undergo random urinalysis and is subject to random searches of his person, residence, and vehicle.

BLAIR was the organizer and leader of a methamphetamine trafficking organization operating in Terre Haute from December, 2002 through September 19, 2003. The organization trafficked approximately 50 pounds of methamphetamine, with a street value of over \$2 million, during this time period. BLAIR stored and distributed the meth from his home in the 3700 block of Plum Street in Terre Haute where he resided with his wife and children.

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